

What's New in New Hampshire

Spring/Summer 2010

Spring/Summer Excitement

[M/S Mt. Washington](#), Weirs Beach, NH – This Mother's Day, May 9, 2010, the M/S Mt. Washington will debut two new environmentally-friendly engines provided in part by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency. In addition, a new Captains Lounge on the second deck will provide 270-degree views of Lake Winnepesaukee and the surrounding mountains. It will also serve as a function room for gatherings of 30 to 50 people, with décor that will highlight those of the ship's captains who have served the vessel for more than 15 years. Tickets to this special annual event include a champagne brunch and entertainment.

[Isles of Shoals Steamship Authority expands service to Star Island](#), Rye, NH – Under a new contract with the Star Island Corporation, the Isles of Shoals Steamship Company (ISSCO) will provide ferry service aboard the M/V Thomas Lighton, its Victorian-style steamship, for guests attending summer conferences at Star Island's Oceanic Hotel. Beginning in June, the Thomas Lighton will resume the popular Star Island Walkabout and Stopover Tours. Star Island's Oceanic Hotel, a popular destination for Seacoast residents and tourists, offers dining services and overnight accommodations (. The island is also home to a marine laboratory and historical museum.

[Littleton Main Street](#), Littleton, NH – Downtown has undergone \$3.5 million in renovations including new sidewalks, crosswalks with pedestrian-friendly bump-outs and Victorian style light posts. With easy access to the majestic Ammonoosuc River and RiverWalk Trail, Littleton is a great place to bring a group for a tour.

Events

[Tall Ships](#), Portsmouth, NH – Memorial Day Weekend, May 28th through May 31st Portsmouth's Annual Tall Ships Festival kicks off. A Boat Parade will take place on May 28th and boat tours will begin on Saturday and run through Monday from 10am-5pm. As part of the festivities:

[Privateer Lynx Visits Portsmouth](#) – A tall ship with Portsmouth's name on it is seeking to represent the state of New Hampshire in the upcoming War of 1812 Bicentennial celebrations. The Lynx can accommodate up to 40 passengers for day sails.

[Centennial Open House/Historic New England](#) – Visitors are invited to experience, in a real and personal way, the lives and stories of the individuals and families who made New Hampshire what it is today. Free tours are being offered on Saturday, June 5th at the following participating properties:

[Jackson House](#), Portsmouth, NH - The oldest surviving wood frame house in New Hampshire was built by Richard Jackson, a woodworker, farmer, and mariner, on his family's 25-acre plot.

[Gilman-Garrison House](#), Exeter, NH –The Gilman Garrison House, described in 1719 as "the old logg house," was built as a fortified house, strategically sited to protect the valuable sawmills and waterpower sites owned by John Gilman.

[Governor John Langdon House](#), Portsmouth, NH – John Langdon rose from modest origins to become a merchant, shipbuilder, Revolutionary leader, signer of the United States Constitution, and three-term governor of New Hampshire.

[Barrett House](#), New Ipswich, NH – According to tradition, The Barrett House's Forest Hall was built as a wedding gift for Charles Barrett and his bride by his father.

[Rundlet-May House](#), Portsmouth, NH – The merchant James Rundlet acquired his wealth in the textile trade. To proclaim his success, he built his mansion on a terraced rise above the street and filled it with the finest furnishings available.

[Piscataqua Waterfront Festival](#), Portsmouth, NH – Presented by the Moffatt-Ladd House and Garden and The Gundalow Company, the Piscataqua Waterfront Festival includes a free museum house tour, as well as gundalow tours and sea shanties. Additionally, children can play with a sea life touch tank, learn about knot tying, nail making and boat building. June 5, 2010.

[Lisbon Lilac Festival](#), Lisbon, NH – Lisbon honors the State Flower each spring with the annual Lisbon Lilac Festival. The three day event kicks off with a certified YMCA 5K Fun Run/Walk on Saturday morning, followed by the parade at 11 a.m. This year's parade theme is "Sportsmanship," and the carnival runs from Friday evening until Sunday evening. Local talent provides entertainment all day and the event wraps up with a grand parade of the area's fire trucks and emergency vehicles, followed by spectacular fireworks. Visitors will enjoy abundant photo opportunities with the tremendous number of lilacs in downtown Lisbon. May 28-30, 2010.

[Fields of Lupine Festival](#), Franconia Notch, NH - Paying homage to the annual blossoming of this captivating wildflower, the Fields of Lupine Festival is a time honored regional event. The brilliant spikes of the lupine flower carpet local fields and pastures in a rolling sea of vibrant purples, pinks, blues and whites. The long-lasting blossoms attract equally dazzling butterflies and create a breathtaking floral display against the majestic backdrop of the Franconia, Presidential, and Kinsman Mountain ranges. The communities of Franconia, Easton, Sugar Hill, Bethlehem, Littleton and Lisbon join together to showcase this colorful pageant. Complementing the natural beauty of the floral show, the Fields of Lupine Festival offers special events within the festival. Retailers and restaurants will be offering, promotions, discounts, entertainment, and refreshments, as will museum and historic inn tours, an open-air market on Main Street Sugar Hill, and other locations throughout the communities all month long. Annual Wildflower Festival at Rocks Estate, June 5 – The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests

invites wildflower enthusiasts to kick off the annual Fields of Lupine Festival June 5th at the Rocks Estate. The day will mark the 30th Annual Wildflower Festival, with a full slate of fun activities planned at the turn-of-the-century Estate. June 4-20, 2010.

[Fields of Lupine Art Show](#) – At the Sugar Hill Meeting House Exhibits, demonstrations and sale of art and crafts sponsored by the Ammonoosuc Arts Council.

[Fields of Lupine Festival Concerts](#) – Special entertainment and concerts, including an organ concert At St. Matthew's Chapel in Sugar Hill. St. Matthew's Chapel is the most-photographed chapel in New England because of its architecture, history and scenic location on Route 117 in Sugar Hill.

[Annual Prescott Park Festival Featuring "Peter Pan,"](#) Portsmouth, NH – Prescott Park will be performing the musical adaptation of J.M. Barrie's "Peter Pan." Enjoy what has been one of the Seacoast's favorite summer traditions for the past 36 years. June 25-August 22, 2010.

Activities

[Atkinson Resort & Country Club](#), Atkinson, NH – Atkinson Resort & Country Club has introduced the Willowcreek Golf Academy and the Par 3 9-Hole Golf Course.

[Willowcreek Golf Academy](#): The Atkinson Resort Willowcreek Golf Academy is a 10,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art golf training facility that is dedicated to the education and advancement of golfers of all skill levels and abilities.

[Par 3 9-Hole Golf Course](#): Introducing the family-friendly 9-hole Par 3 Golf Course surrounded by the lush fairways and rolling greens. Perfect for a quick round or a small golf outing with colleagues, friends or family.

[Mt. Washington Valley Golf Packages](#), North Conway, NH – Home to more than eight scenic golf courses, boasting breathtaking mountain and lake views, Mt. Washington Valley is a premier New England golf destination. This year, Mt. Washington Valley's eight golf courses have partnered with area lodging properties to create an affordable Golf & Stay package option, allowing guests to choose from a variety of courses. With prices starting at \$53 per person, per night, based on double occupancy, this package combines an overnight stay at participating lodging properties with a round of golf.

[Mt. Washington Valley Cycling](#), North Conway, NH – There's a new emphasis this season on cycling in Mt. Washington Valley. Many lodging properties have started offering cycling packages that include a Ride Guide by renowned local cyclist, Marty Basch, overnight accommodations, a trail map and water bottle. Visitors are invited to enjoy miles and miles of some of New England's most scenic biking in the Mt. Washington Valley area.

[Mountain Coast at Attitash](#), Bartlett, NH – An exciting new adventure attraction, the Mountain Coaster at Attitash offers an exhilarating and scenic ride as it carries visitors up Attitash before descending on a thrilling 2,600 foot ride down the mountain, dropping 324 vertical feet through banked curves and dips.

[Whale's Tale Water Park](#), Lincoln, NH – Summer fun water park is adding on a new section called "Shipwreck Island." The addition will consist of multilevel structures with more waterslides, water shooters, water sprayers, and a large ship that will dump hundreds of gallons of water at once onto the people below it.

[The Flying Yankee Hobo Railroad](#), Lincoln, NH – The Flying Yankee, 1 of 3 stainless steel, diesel/electric, air conditioned, passenger trains delivered during the Depression in 1935. The Flying Yankee is the only one that will ride the rails again; it is being restored and can be seen at the Hobo Railroad.

[Mount Washington Cog Railway](#), Bretton Woods, NH – Celebrating its 140th birthday. Groups can choose between taking the historic steam locomotives or the new eco-friendly biodiesels up the track. Groups are also invited into the all-new Marshfield building which offers more seating and restrooms at the Peppersass Restaurant. The Mount Washington Cog Railway is the second steepest mountain climbing train in the world, and the only one built entirely on a trestle.

Hotels and Lodging

[Courtyard by Marriott](#), Keene, NH – The new Courtyard by Marriott will open in downtown Keene in June, 2010. It will be a full service hotel, including conference and event facilities for corporate and private functions of up to 200 guests. Construction began on the facility in August of 2009, and is currently in the final stages of obtaining LEED Certification – being constructed to meet the highest of environmental standards.

[Marriott Residence Inn](#), Portsmouth, NH – Construction on a new 120-room extended-stay hotel is underway in Portsmouth, as the first phase of the **Portwalk Project**. The Residence Inn is due to open May 19th; and the Conference Center is scheduled to open June 19th. When the project is completed, Portwalk will ultimately feature four LEED-Certified, mixed use buildings. In addition to the hotel, Portwalk's master plan includes 36 downtown condominiums, 15 to 20 retail shops and restaurants, and more than 175,000 square feet of office space situated above an underground parking lot.

[Mountain View Grand Resort](#), Whitefield, NH – Visit the completely renovated and redesigned signature Tower Spa. The resort installed new thermo-pane glass windows to offer guests unmatched 360-degree crystal-clear views of this 1700-acre property and the numerous surrounding White Mountains peaks. The resort also recently installed a 121-foot wind turbine to generate up to half of its electricity.

[Jack O'Lantern Resort & Golf Course](#), North Woodstock, NH – 360 degree panoramic mountain view resort offering complimentary packages for groups of 15 or more. The resort also offers, upon request, tours of local covered bridges, trains, golf, local brew pub.

[Harbor Events Center](#), Portsmouth, NH – Set to open May 2010, the center will be a full service conference and event facility offering pre-function and event space for corporate and private functions.

[Omni Mount Washington Grand Resort](#), Bretton Woods, NH – Once the Mount Washington Hotel, now the Omni Mount Washington Grand, this luxurious resort has been entertaining guests since 1902. Now hosts a new spa and salon, 18-hole golf course, zip-line tour, and other summer resort activities such as horseback riding, hiking, and fishing.

Culinary

[New Inscription Wine Series](#) – The New Hampshire Liquor Commission (NHLC) has officially launched this year's "Inscription" line of wines, two varietals that industry icon Michael Mondavi blended exclusively for New Hampshire. The 2007 Inscription Limited Edition Petite Sirah and Old Vine Zinfandel by Michael Mondavi can be purchased for \$12.99 each at 24 New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlets statewide.

Brewery Tour, Statewide – The Granite State is home to some of the best breweries in New England. [The New Hampshire Brewery Map](#) highlights the excellence and inspired diversity of fresh, handcrafted, New Hampshire-made beer. Follow along to find a wide range of award-winning breweries, microbreweries and brew pubs throughout the state. Each establishment offers a unique experience for everyone.

[Taste of the Nation](#), **Portsmouth, NH** – Taste of the Nation is the nation's preeminent culinary benefit supporting anti-hunger and anti-poverty efforts. The event includes a gala food and wine tasting featuring the area's finest chefs, hand crafted beers, wines, musical entertainment, and a silent auction. Taste of the Nation is sponsored by Share Our Strength and hosted by Strawberry Banke on Wednesday, June 23rd, 6:30pm on Puddle Dock at the museum. For tickets and more information, visit

New Portside Seafood Restaurant, Portsmouth, NH – The popular Muddy River Restaurant located in downtown Portsmouth transforms into Portside Seafood this spring, serving fresh seafood cuisine in a similar creative and casual atmosphere. Groups are welcome. 603-430-9582 (website under construction)

[Flag Hill Winery](#), Lee, NH – Winners of the gold medal for their Cranberry Liqueur by the Beverage Tasting Institute, Flag Hill continues to impress. With the opening of their new dining room and their commitment to local products such as apple, maple and grapes, Flag Hill offers a delicious experience to guests.

[**Z Food and Drink**](#), Manchester, NH – The downtown Manchester dining destination known for “seriously fun food” has expanded its space, doubling the size of the restaurant. The overall footprint of the restaurant has grown to 4,000 square feet, accommodating 125 total seats, including a new bar that seats 20, and a kitchen expansion. A renovated kitchen now allows chefs even more creative freedom to experiment and add to the already progressive menu. While renovating the new bar area, workers discovered a beautiful porcelain tile floor that was hidden for decades.

[**Republic**](#), Manchester, NH – Republic is a restaurant based on the European model of a “bar” With a casual and unique atmosphere. Republic offers full coffee and espresso menu, Panini, salads and daily entrée specials. The bar offers a wide selection of wines served by the taste, glass, ½ carafe and bottle, as well as unique draft beers. Say more about the menu, Mediterranean style, farm to table, organic offerings, etc.

[**Five Guys Burgers and Fries**](#), Manchester, NH – The award-winning Washington D.C.-based chain has opened shop on South Willow Street in Manchester; and fans say this chain has elevated fast-food burgers and fries to a new level of quality. Five Guys uses only fresh ground beef; and their menu is trans-fat free. In addition to hot, juicy burgers & fries, Five Guys also serves up quite an impressive hot dog, as well as grilled cheese and veggie sandwiches.

Arts and Culture

[**Portsmouth Historical Society**](#), **Portsmouth** – Celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2010. The season opens May 22 at its original admission fee of 25 cents. It is open seven days a week, 11am to 5pm through Oct. 31. Discover Portsmouth Center opens the same day, also seven days a way, 10am to 5pm. Exhibits include:

[John Paul Jones House Museum](#)

- Brooches, Caps & Collars: Adornment in Portsmouth Portraits 1800-1860
- 90 Years of Telling Portsmouth Stories
- An Uncommon Commitment to Peace: Portsmouth Peace Treaty 1905

[Discover Portsmouth Center](#)

- Summering in Rye – on loan from Rye Historical Society
- Rescuing Whaleback Lighthouse – A Wave-Swept Sentinel

[**The Portsmouth Commercial Fishing Industry**](#) – In celebration of its 100th anniversary, [Historic New England](#) will capture the stories of the hard-working people who make up this fast disappearing community – through interviews and photographs of the fishermen at work and in their homes. Highlights of the project will be displayed at the Discover Portsmouth Center.

[**New Hampshire Maple Museum**](#), Bethlehem, NH – The Rocks Estate now offers a year-round maple experience. Participants will enjoy an interactive virtual tour of the actual sap boiling process in the new sugarhouse and maple museum and learn how this sweetest of treats was made from the times of the

Native Americans to present day. The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, which owns The Rocks, is working with the NH Maple Museum to renovate and create this unique educational experience.

[The Music Hall](#), Portsmouth, NH – The Music Hall presents “Writers on a New England Stage.” The Music Hall has welcomed such celebrated authors as Greg Mortenson, John Updike, Cokie Roberts, Dan Brown, Barbara Kingsolver, and Stephen King. In May, the acclaimed Latin American novelist [Isabel Allende](#) discusses her new novel, “Island Beneath the Sea.” Also coming up at The Music Hall this Spring/Summer Season:

[Historic Tour of the 1878 Music Hall](#) – The Music Hall will open its doors twice monthly for guided tours, taking visitors behind the scenes and through the restorations, renovations and history of the celebrated 1878 theater, designated An American Treasure by the U.S. Senate. The tours will run on the first Wednesday of the month at 5pm and on the third Thursday at 12:30pm.

[KidsRULE!: Circus Incognitus](#) – A natural clown in an unforgettable one-man circus comedy, Jamie Adkins’ clowning and acrobatic feats on the ground and on a slack wire are brought to life in a story of a man who has something to say, but can’t.

[Intimately Yours : The Saw Doctors](#) – The Irish supergroup presents a huge variety of musical influences, including pop, punk, rock 'n' roll, and traditional Irish, all contribute to the band's signature sound.

[Intimately Yours: Herbie Hancock](#) – Oscar-award-winning Herbie Hancock known for breaking uncharted territory with his acoustic jazz styles , blending funk, jazz, and pure musical genius on stage.

[Strawbery Banke Museum](#), Dover, NH – Strawbery Banke Museum celebrates **Opening Day for 2010 Season** on Saturday May 1st (10-5) Experience four centuries of American life in New Hampshire's oldest waterfront neighborhood.

Special additions for the 2010 season:

Painting Portsmouth – A luscious look at this charming seacoast city, as envisioned by a generous sampling of prominent mid-19th to mid-20th century artists. **Good Morning Strawberry Banke** – A children's history book written and illustrated by local author and artist, Wickie Rowland. This imaginative and fun book teaches the history of the Puddle Dock neighborhood to children through the use of "tour guide" JD, the museum's frequent guest cat that strolls through Strawberry Banke.

[Currier Museum of Art](#), Manchester – The museum has made several changes over the past year, including new objects in the contemporary, modern and glass galleries. This season’s new exhibit is: **Homer to Hopper: American Watercolor Masterworks from the Currier Museum of Art**, an exhibition

featuring extraordinary works by such nationally known masters as Winslow Homer, Maurice Prendergast, Childe Hassam, Rockwell Kent, Edward Hopper, Charles Burchfield, John Marin, Charles Sheeler, Stuart Davis, and Andrew Wyeth.

[SEE Science Center](#), Manchester, NH – The “Discover Dinosaurs!” exhibit through the end of May features half to full scale robotic dinosaurs that move and make sounds. Visitors will learn about pre-historic land, sea and air creatures and their environments, as well as discover the technology and science that is used to create the robots themselves. The exhibit includes hands-on activities for the whole family, including a fossil dig pit, dinosaur rubbing tables and more.

[Enfield Shaker Museum](#), Enfield, NH – Nestled in a valley between Mt. Assurance and Mascoma Lake, in Enfield, New Hampshire, the Enfield Shaker site has been cherished for over 200 years. At its peak in the mid 19th century, the community was home to three "Families" of Shakers.

[Country Life Festival](#) – Celebrate living in harmony with the land. Sample Upper Valley’s cheeses, honey, herbs, cider, maple syrup and more. Watch craft demonstrations; take a horse-drawn wagon ride; see local animals Saturday June 5 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

[Art and Garden Tour](#) –Tour private and public gardens and The final stop will be the Museum’s Herb Garden, where refreshments will be served. A Silent Auction of enchanted fairy houses with other garden-related items will be held, along with a Twilight Tour of gardens in the village surrounding the Museum site, and a wine and cheese reception Saturday July 17

Social Media

NH Division of Travel & Tourism Development (NHDTTD) Facebook Fan Benefit –NHDTTD’s VisitNH Fan Benefit on Facebook allows fans to receive exclusive discounts at NH properties and attractions. Since the launch, the Division has nearly doubled its fans on Facebook to more than 5,000 people. April’s Fan benefit is: Buy one meal, get a second one free at all 17 Common Man family of restaurants in the state. Or: Reserve one night at the Common Man Inn & Spa in Plymouth, NH at regular price and receive 50% off the second consecutive night in a room of equal or lesser value. Visitors can log onto to: www.facebook.com/VisitNH to become a fan and start enjoying all the benefits that go with it.

Yankee Dollar Stretcher Deals

[The Rosewood Country Inn](#), Bradford, NH – "Mothers, Daughters, Sisters, and Friends Weekend." This package includes: 2 night’s accommodation, Candlelight and Crystal Breakfasts, Gardening Workshop, and Four-course Victorian Tea. Package is good from 4/30-5/2.

[**The Balsams, Dixville Notch, NH**](#) – “Full American” package. Package includes: Comfortable Accommodations, Full Buffet Breakfast, Famous Luncheon Buffet, Five-Course Dinner in The BALSAMS Award-Winning Dining Room, Mountain Bike & Boat Rentals, Golf Greens fees, Live Entertainment and more.

[**The Cottage Place on Squam Lake, Holderness, NH**](#) – “Family Adventure Package”. This package starts at \$295 for a two night stay. Families will arrive to find 4 envelopes outlining tasks that need to be completed by the end of their stay. These exercises promise to foster family togetherness and are designed to improve communication between all members (recommended ages 5 and older – but left to your discretion). At the end of the stay, families will be rewarded with a gift that will remind them of their adventure.

[**Sandy Beach RV Resort, Contoocook, NH**](#) – “Visit NH” package. A week stay for the whole family (2 Adults and their children under 18). Includes: 4 Hours of Paddleboat Rentals, 1 Bundle of Firewood & a Smore's Package Enjoy Free Shuffleboard, Bocce, Tennis, Horseshoes, Crafts, Wii Games, Entertainment, Planned Activities & Events. Packages available for Tent Sites, RV Sites & Rental Cabins...Starting at only \$110 per week.

[**Cranmore Mountain Lodge, North Conway**](#) – “Shopping Spree” package. Offer includes: 2 night stay at Cranmore Mountain Lodge, full country breakfast, a tote bag full of goodies and exclusive coupons from various stores and restaurants.

Awards and Honors

[**League of NH Craftsmen's Fair**](#) in Newbury, NH placed #9 in American Style Magazine's [**Spring 2010 Top Fairs & Festivals**](#). The magazine stated, “It's almost critical to plan ahead for the League of NH Craftsmen's Fair in August—there are so many demonstrations, workshops and seminars, you'll want to schedule in your favorites.” More than 200 booths are perched atop a mountain overlooking Lake Sunapee. The fair returns Aug. 7-15.

[**Portsmouth named “Most Romantic City”**](#) – National Public Radio travel writer and commentator Crai S. Bower published an article entitled, “What Makes a City Romantic” which included a list of eight North American cities and towns each romantic for its own, swoon-worthy reasons; and one of the eight is Portsmouth, New Hampshire. “In Portsmouth, the romance lies primarily in our legends, history and in our soothing water views. Portsmouth is New England's answer to Savannah (GA) and Quebec City, lovely old streets that capture our country's rather young history.”

[**New Hampshire Named Safest State In Country**](#) – NH has been named the safest state in the nation for the third year in a row by Washington-based CQ Press.

Miscellaneous

Bald Eagles on the Rise – New Hampshire bird watchers spotted a record number of bald eagles in January during a two-week count. The Fish and Game Department said 75 bald eagles were seen during the count, a statewide effort coordinated by the department and New Hampshire Audubon. Officials said the increase reflected the national trend toward a recovering species. www.nh Audubon.org

Grand North - The Grand North is a new membership organization bringing tourism to the northern most parts of the White Mountains to the Canadian border. Visitors can enjoy spas, state parks, antiquing and more.

Jericho Mountain State Park, Berlin – The newest member of the New Hampshire State Parks, Jericho Mountain State Park offers miles of trail riding for ATVs and mountain bikes. Guests can also enjoy swimming, fishing, canoeing and picnicking.